CHARACTER STUDIES

1. Esau and Jacob — Gen. 25:27-34

2. Meteorlike and Cometlike People — Jude 13

Gen:25:27-34.

THEME:- Esau's Choice or Jacob's, Which?

INTRO:- The Two Characters.

I. The character of Esau.

1.Splendid type of physical man.
2.Passionate.
a/ an easy prey to desert daughters of Hittites.
b/ uncontrollable. (pair.
3.Impulsive (hopeless des-
a/ exercising superhuman effort one moment, the next in
b/ today planning to kill, tomorrow falling on the neck of his brother. Bold but
4.Open-hearted and generous; but reckless.
5.Mental powers undeveloped.
6.Utterly lacking in spiritual insight, judging things by immediate profit & material advantage
7.A hunter, a free, out-of-door man.

II. The Character of Jacob.

1.A typical Jew, with a strong mixture of good and bad.
2.Crafty and cunning. The Supplanter.
An unscrupulous butprudent schemer, always demanding his pound of flesh. -cold, calculating selfishness
3.Foresighted.
a/ could always abide his time.
b/ ever planning for the future.
4.The embodiment of Constancy.
a/ followed set purpose with dogged determination.
The Bull-Dog Grip.
b/ true to the end in his love.
1. worked 14 yrs. under Laban for Rachael.
2. the dying Jacob in Egypt still turned his thot and affection to His long since departed Rachel.
5.Lived in a tent, a quiet life of meditation and planning.

I. The Exchange of Birthright for a Mess of Pottage.

1. Eventide, Jacob preparing a pot of lentils over the fire.
2. Esau appears, after a long and weary day's hunt.
3. The savory odors arouse Esau. "I want that red pottage!"
4. Jacob recognizes his opportunity. "Sell me this day thy birthright."
5. What the birthright meant.
   a/ the inheritance of the Holy Land. b/ right to priesthood. c/ the promise that thru his descent the Messiah would come.
6. Esau's rash act. "I am about to die: and what profits shall the birthright do to me?"

II. What the Two Men Display in this Scene.

ESAU	JACOB
1. A lack of self-control.	Self-mastered
2. A slave to the desire of the moment	Willing to wait.
3. No appreciation of values	First things first.
4. A "profane" man. Heb. 12:16	A spiritual man.

judging only by the eye, by material returns.

{ receiving the small for the great, the present for the future, the material for the spiritual.

III. Modern Esaus and Jacobs.

1. In business. 2. In college. 3. In the church.

Last fable

distorted his vision "the dollar bigger than the Lord."

CONCLUSION:- Can an Esau be saved?

The story of blind Alec.

1. An Englishman who worked in the coal mines of Cornwall.
2. Daring and wild. Lost his sight, thru own fault.
3. Supported by the townspeople until they grew tired of it.
4. Bitter and rebellious against God and man.
5. The dainty, city-bred school-teacher married him.
6. His gratitude wore off.
7. The hard task of his wife.
8. The Day the Lord spoke to him.
   Had been exceptionally mean.
   His wife went to school with a breaking heart.
   The Change. The wife's surprise upon her return.
   His after life of usefulness.
   Weaving baskets. Studying Bible and literature of the blind.
   Devoted their lives to the uplift of

P.M.
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Teachings of the Esau-Jacob Story.

Q.

1. A man or a nation, however gifted or attractive, if intent only on immediate and physical enjoyment amd without a spiritual ideal or ambition, is, like Esau, destined to degererate and prove a failure.

2. Selfishnish and trickery bring only injustice to others and cowardice and suffering to the wrong-doer. He who soweth the wind shall reap the whirlwind.

3. God himself cannot make a man out of an idle drifter: ×but he who has ambition and persistence is never impossible.

Can we despise our Birthright?

1. By living below our privileges & opportunities
2. ~~By~~ Living only by the sense & time.

We ought to be asking —

What profit the mess of pottage if I lose my birthright.

What profit the easy self-indulgence, if we are bartering peace and love and holiness & happiness.

"What shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world - and lose his own soul?"

Can an Esau be saved?

Old story of Blind Alec.